

Kyrle Bellew and Margaret Illington as Co-stars

"THE THIEF"

A MORBID BUT INTERESTING DRAMA

Mrs. Fiske to Revive "Hedda Gabler" and "Leah Kleschna"

From Our New York Dramatic Correspondent.

KYRLE BELLEW and Margaret Illington are the stars in "The Thief," the new drama at the Lyceum theater, by Henri Bernstein. The play is an adaptation from a French success entitled "Le Volleur," but, according to various authorities, it is too morbid to win a wide following in America.

Just why critics should state unhesitatingly that a morbid drama will not prove a success in America is difficult to fathom. Morbidity in a sense is a close relation of melodrama, and no one dares assail the popularity of the "thriller" with American audiences. But, of course there are degrees and varieties of morbidity. The extreme degree will, when uncombined with diverting

incident, as a rule prove a failure on the stage. Yet there are exceptions even to this rule, for is not "Camille" a morbid play? "The Climbers" is another one. Playwrights, both American and modern, have written morbid plays that succeeded.

As regards "The Thief," its story, construction and interpretation are intensely interesting.

The writer shows careful and gratifying attention to a leading rule of play building in conserving every word, phrase and circumstance strictly on the development and illumination of the actual theme of the drama. He does not branch off into vagaries and matters of secondary importance.

The story is one of great emotion stirring possibilities. Especially does the leading woman's role require powerful work to carry the drama to its



BERNICE GOLDEN HENDERSON, BEAUTIFUL NEW YORK ACTRESS, WHO RETURNS TO THE STAGE IN "THE RIGHT OF WAY."

Bernice Golden Henderson, who plays the role of Kathleen in "The Right of Way," in which Guy Standing is to star, was first seen on the professional stage in "Sweet Kitty Bellairs," with Henrietta Crossman, at the Belasco theater, New York. Mr. Belasco had seen her play at a dramatic school matinee and immediately signed her. He gave her valuable personal instruction and was greatly grieved when she left the stage to marry a wealthy New Yorker.

Miss Henderson was finally persuaded by Klaw & Erlanger, however, to leave private life and return to the stage in "The Right of Way." Needless to say, "Wizard" Belasco is deeply chagrined to see his one time pupil now in capture by his bitter rivals. It is reported that he will lose no opportunity to regain Miss Henderson from the enemy's camp. She is a decidedly beautiful woman, whose dramatic talents, striking enough to impress the cold managerial eye of a Belasco, are as yet unsounded to their greatest depths. Whether or not she precipitates a new war between Belasco and the syndicate remains to be seen by an expectant theatrical world.

"The Right of Way" is a dramatization by Eugene Presbrey of Sir Gilbert Parker's celebrated novel of the same name.

required pitch. Consequently Miss Illington is not the best choice for the role of Mme. Voysin, for while in the lighter intervals her work is adequate and diverting, yet in the depth and intensity of the strongest parts of the play she fails to carry full conviction. As an emotional actress Miss Illington, while she has improved of late, still has considerable to learn.

Richard Voysin (Kyrle Bellew) and his young wife, Maria-Louisa (Miss Illington), spend a few months of a rapturous honeymoon at the home of M. and Mme. Legarde. The husband has not great wealth, but he indulges the fancies of his gay, vivacious wife as much as possible. The husband does not know that the son of his hosts has fallen violently in love with his wife. The lad Fernand leaves frenzied letters for Mme. Voysin secreted in many

places. She regards the boy's advances with indifference.

A big robbery occurs in the household, and a detective finds evidence that Fernand is guilty. He is accused and confesses his guilt. But later developments are of an astounding nature.

Mme. Voysin herself is the thief! Four thousand stolen francs are discovered in her possession. She stole, she says, to procure the pretty clothes

and ornaments necessary to hold her husband's love, for which she deeply craved.

But why should Fernand lie and incriminate himself to save Mme. Voysin? The inference of greater guilt, however, is disproved by Mme. Voysin, though she tells of the lad's infatuation for her. A threat of complete exposure of her theft is met by the wife's declaration that she will commit suicide in that event. So the husband decides to go with his wife to a foreign land to aid her in building her character anew.

Mrs. Fiske's Plans.

Mrs. Fiske early in October will begin a tour of the south, where she will appear in "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," "Leah Kleschna" and "Hedda Gabler."

She has not acted in the southern states in nine years and will be seen for the first time in these three plays. The Manhattan company, including many of the players who have been with it from its foundation, will be associated with Mrs. Fiske on the southern tour. In December Mrs. Fiske will produce a new play, which will be the feature of her annual New York engagement at the Lyric theater. For this production Mr. Fiske will surround her with a special company peculiarly adapted to the requirements of the play. An interesting development of this will be the appearance of the Manhattan company as a separate organization in furtherance of Mr. Fiske's plan of giving it an individuality of its own.

In the four seasons that it has supported Mrs. Fiske the company has been generally recognized as one of the best balanced and most effective dramatic organizations in the country. The Manhattan company will be seen in New York in January in a play that Langdon Mitchell, author of "The New York Idea," is writing. This dissociation from Mrs. Fiske is only temporary, as the following season the Manhattan company will again appear with her.

Bertha Kalich's season in Percy Mackaye's poetic tragedy, "Sappho and Phaoon," will also begin in October and soon thereafter Mme. Kalich will fill a limited engagement at the Lyric theater, following with an extensive tour of the larger cities. The production of "Sappho and Phaoon" in many respects will be the most notable Mr. Fiske has made. Mme. Kalich, whose acting in "Monna Vanna" revealed her powers in the poetic drama, has, as the immortal Lesbian poetess, a classic role.

Frederick Tringello

"SALOME" IN ENGLISH.

"Salome" is to be performed next season in English, according to the present plans of Henry W. Savage. He will add to the repertory of his English opera company Richard Strauss' one act opera, using the original text of Oscar Wilde. He has acquired the rights to the opera outside New York.

MANY HAVE SOUGHT

AND NONE FOUND, PERFECT SYSTEM OF SHORTHAND.

Desire Was As Ardent in the Days of the Romans as in Our Own Time — Fortune Awaits the Discoverer.

Sir Edward Clarke, in joining the ranks of the inventors of systems of shorthand, has yielded to a temptation common to great men of all ages. The learned Egyptian who first got tired of writing out a complete hieroglyphic, and took to suggesting parts of it only, was on the way not only to an alphabet, but toward the goal reached by Sir Edward himself. Since that dim period we have all been doing our best to find a royal road to expression, and have achieved the gramophone. Even Herbert Spencer, whose father invented a "Lucid Shorthand," was bitten with the desire to conquer time, and he tells us that an examination of his father's system left him in no doubt whatever that it was the best of all.

The fatality of all systems, however, is that what seems easy to the eye of filial piety may be terribly difficult to the cold gaze of the stranger. Of the innumerable systems of shorthand that were in vogue a century ago how many survive today? In spite of Pitman, fame and fortune still await the man or woman who can invent a system that will appeal to the reader as effectively as to the original writer. Perhaps if we were to rediscover the lost shorthand writing of the ancient Romans we might feel ourselves on the road toward a solution of the problem.

For the Romans were on affectionate terms with shorthand. Did not Suetonius, speaking of Calligra, express surprise that an emperor of so many promising parts should, nevertheless, be an ignoramus in shorthand; and did not Titus Vespasianus pride himself on his facility in the use of stenography both for business and amusement? So fond was he of the sport that he delighted to gather his amanuenses around him in order that they should tilt against each other in the stenographic field. It may be that but for the rediscovery of the art in our own country toward the end of the sixteenth century the curious Papy would not have been moved to write his Diary, says the London Chronicle.

The first impulse to the rediscovery and cultivation of shorthand in modern times may probably be traced to the desire, at the time of the Reformation, of preserving the discourses of the preachers of the new doctrines. "To write as fast as a man speaketh" was the motto of the Elizabethan writing-master and stenographer, Peter Bales, declared to be "in effect very easy." The shorthand whereby is attained by memory, and swiftness by practice, and sweetness by industry. But the early systems were very inefficient, and this has been considered by critics to be one of the causes of the corrupt readings of the text of some of Shakespeare's plays. Contemporary opinion on the subject may be gathered from the "Pleasant Dialogues and Dramas" of Thomas Heywood (1637), who says that his play of "Queen Elizabeth"

"Did throng the seats, the boxes and the stage so much so that some by stenography drew a plot, put it in print, scarce one word true."

The Age of the Earth.

Although it is not considered polite to inquire too closely into the age of a lady, the scientists will keep bothering Mother Earth about hers. Dr. R. F. Scharff of the Dublin museum believes that the oldest and most permanent forms of the earth's surface can be ascertained by a study of the distribution of the present forms of animal life. He finds that animals found east of the Rockies were comparatively unknown on the western slopes until modern times. But almost identical forms are found in Europe—Austria particularly.

This leads to the belief that at some time this continent had been connected with Europe by a strip of land and that the part of North America now west of the Rocky mountains had been submerged. He also declares it proven that North and South America were not joined together until the middle of the tertiary period, many thousands of years ago, but geologically speaking, very recently.

Try Mental Prism Habit.

As the gulf stream leaves a warm, soft climate in its wake as it flows through the colder waters of the ocean on its way from the gulf to the north pole, so a happy, joyous, sunny nature leaves a warm trail of sunshine wherever it goes through the cold, practical, selfish world.

Lydia Maria Child used to say: "I think cheerfulness in every possible way. I hang prisms in my window to fill the room with rainbows." This is the right kind of philosophy—the philosophy of good cheer, the greatest medicine for the mind, the best tonic for the body, the greatest health food known.

Chronic Kickers.

Assum—You don't believe in a college education, then?

Wise—No. It unfit a man for everything except to sit around croaking about how much more intelligent he could enjoy wealth than the average rich man does.—Philadelphia Press.

Timely Views of Football and Other Sports

THE football season of 1907 has opened, and loud is the noise thereof. The wholesale juggling with the rules during the last two or three years does not seem to have curtailed the tremendous popularity in the least as regards either players or spectators. In fact, the game is unanimously described as a greater spectacle than ever.

The college schedules have been announced and digested by the various teams concerned. The big eleven in the east and west have been so badly scared at times in some of their so-called

academy plays Dickinson; Williams plays Holy Cross.

Following are some of the other important dates:

OCT. 9.
Dartmouth versus New Hampshire State; Princeton versus Wesleyan, at Princeton; Pennsylvania versus Franklin and Marshall, at Philadelphia.

OCT. 12.
Brown versus Maine, at Providence; Princeton versus Bucknell, at Princeton; Annapolis versus North Carolina, at Annapolis; Harvard versus Williams,

Amherst versus Dartmouth, at Amherst.

NOV. 2.
Chicago versus Minnesota, at Minneapolis; Princeton versus Indiana, at New York; Navy versus West Virginia, at Annapolis; Harvard versus Brown.

NOV. 9.
Wisconsin versus Indiana, at Madison; Princeton versus Amherst, at Princeton; Yale versus Brown, at New Haven; Cornell versus Army, at West Point; Harvard versus Indiana, at Cambridge.

go; Navy versus Virginia Poly, at Annapolis; Lafayette versus Lehigh, at South Bethlehem; Amherst versus Brown, at Providence; Army versus Syracuse, at West Point; Yale versus Harvard, at Cambridge.

NOV. 28, THANKSGIVING DAY.
Pennsylvania versus Cornell, at Philadelphia.

NOV. 30.
Army versus Navy, at Philadelphia.

\$20,000 Derby For Mexico.
According to dispatches from Mexico, the government has taken an interest in racing in our sister republic and purposes to give the sum of \$20,000 each year for ten years for the Mexican Derby. This move is made by the government with the idea of improving the breed of horses in Mexico, \$20,000 having been set aside to be divided up in ten purses to be run for annually. It will be necessary to import horses from the United States to conduct such a meeting successfully, and with a chance to run for a \$20,000 purse it should not be difficult to get sufficient horses of fair class to make an interesting meeting.

Racing has been attempted in the City of Mexico before. Several years ago Colonel Bob Pate, a well known western racing man, conducted a meeting or two there which met with fair success, but not enough of the home people were interested at that time to make the enterprise a paying one. The Mexicans are a great sporting people, and the recent development of the republic has turned out almost as many millionaires as the United States. With these people properly interested and backed by the federal government, racing should quickly become a popular sport in Mexico.

Tommy Ryan on Deck.

The complete failure of the Michigan peach crop and the announcement of the early resumption of the boxing game in Chicago have brought Tommy Ryan from his Benton Harbor (Mich.) farm exclusion, and he announces his intention of re-entering the flat game.

In a letter to his manager, Jack Curley, Ryan writes as follows: "I am training regularly, and if the boxing game is to open in Chicago I am ready to fight anybody the club picks for me. Don't forget I am still the middleweight champion, and so far as I know, there is no one that can wrest it from me. I am sure no Twin Sullivan, Hugo Kelly or Young Ketchell is able to do it. I am ready right now to fight any middleweight in the world, and first come first served. I am planning a little local show for us over here, and if there is any middleweight that wants my game I will give him a

chance. I will furnish the club and everything and give him a nice purse."

English Boxers Coming Over.
As soon as the snow begins to fly there will be an influx of English boxers into this country. Several men of the lighter classes and one heavyweight are coming over shortly. The Philadelphia clubs have sent flattering offers to Spike Robson, Johnny Summers and Owen Moran for six round contests with the best men of their

respective weights in America. Robson is the recognized featherweight champion of England. Over there the weight for this class is 126 pounds, four pounds above the scale observed in this country. Both Robson and Summers were in America the early part of this year and remained until late in May.

Robson paid his first visit to this country in the summer of 1904, during which season he twice met Tommy Murphy.

HARRY GRANT.



PLAYERS EXECUTING THE FORWARD PASS, FOOTBALL FEATURE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE IN PLAY THIS YEAR.

ed "tryout" games that they have resolved to put stronger teams in the field in the early games than heretofore.

The season of play may be said to have actually opened in a national way Saturday, Sept. 21. The Carlisle Indians were probably the first important team to sustain actual playing condition.

On Oct. 6 Harvard plays Maine at Cambridge, Mass.; Cornell meets Oberlin at Ithaca; Princeton plays Stevens Institute at Princeton; Yale plays Syracuse at New Haven; Carlisle meets Pennsylvania State; Annapolis Naval

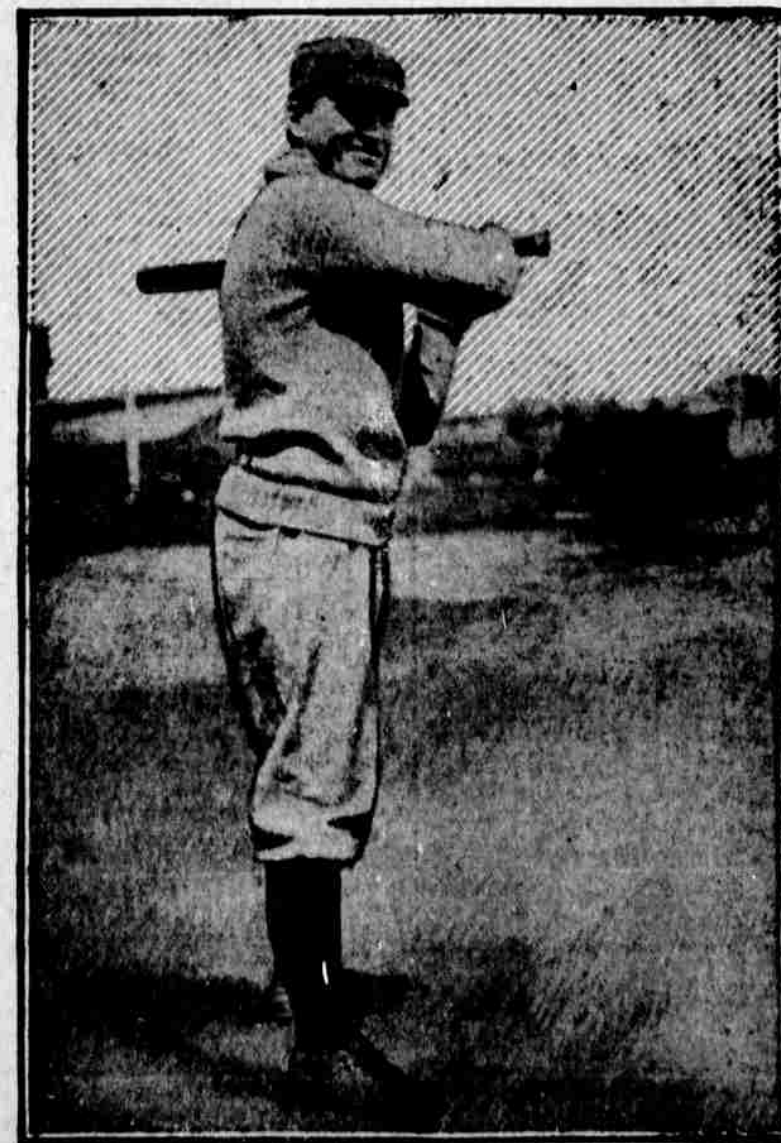
at Cambridge; Cornell versus Colgate, at Ithaca; Yale versus Holy Cross, at New Haven.

OCT. 19.
Harvard versus Navy, at Annapolis; Cornell versus Pennsylvania State, at Ithaca; Indiana versus Bucknell, at Carlisle; Pennsylvania versus Brown, at Philadelphia; Syracuse versus Williams, at Syracuse; Yale versus Army, at West Point; Indiana versus Bucknell, at Carlisle.

OCT. 26.
Cornell versus Princeton, at Ithaca;

NOV. 18.
Yale versus Princeton, at New Haven; Pennsylvania versus Michigan, at Ann Arbor; Lafayette versus Syracuse, at Syracuse; Cornell versus Swarthmore, at Ithaca; Brown versus Vermont, at Providence; Harvard versus Dartmouth, at Cambridge; Indiana versus Minnesota, at Minneapolis; Williams versus Amherst, at Williamstown; Colgate versus Wesleyan, at Ithaca.

NOV. 23.
Wisconsin versus Minnesota, at Madison; Indiana versus Chicago, at Chicago;



JIMMY SHECKARD, HEAVY HITTING OUTFIELDER OF THE CHICAGO NATIONALS.